

Dunmorean of the Month: Jerry Ferrario



By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore's Jerry Ferrario is a local real estate developer who uses his skills to better the community.

Ferrario, 57, a Dunmore High School and Villanova University graduate with a bachelor of science degree in finance, has been a real estate developer for the past three decades.

Married to his grade school friend and high school sweetheart, the former Nadine Lucas, the couple has three children: Jerry, 22, a graduate in economics from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School; Thomas, 21, a senior business major at the University of Miami; and William, a computer science major at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. All are Scranton Prep graduates.



Dunmore's Keystone Chapter UNICO presented a \$1,000 Scholarship to Dunmore High School scholarship recipient Michael Hannah. Michael is the son of Michael and Tiffany Hannah. Michael will attend the University of Pittsburgh majoring in business. Pictured from left are Frank Coviello, Keystone UNICO President, Michael Hannah, scholarship recipient; and Sandy Collins, Keystone UNICO Scholarship Director.--See related photo on Page 14.

Ferrario and his brother Joe, 56, also a Dunmore graduate, rented the space and are the real estate developers of Monroe Plaza, the site of the old Price Chopper in Dunmore. His brother graduated from the University of Scranton with a bachelor of science in business management. The Ferrario brothers are equal

business partners. Michael Marion, Scranton, is a minority partner in the Monroe Plaza development. Jerry's focus for the past 30 years has been on commercial development in Dunmore. The lifelong Dunmore resident takes great pride in the this community. He regularly focuses on projects for the betterment of the borough.

Michele Neary, vice president of marketing for United Gilsonite Laboratories, works close to the Monroe Plaza. "Jerry has his focus on the betterment of the community," she said. "A true testament to that are the beautiful townhouses on Sherwood Avenue which was

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Dunmore professor earns teaching excellence award

Professor Christopher Speicher, Ph.D., of Dunmore, an associate professor and director of entrepreneurship in Marywood University's School of Business and Global Innovation, has been named a regional recipient of the 2020 ACBSP Teaching Excellence Award. The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) recognizes individuals each year who exemplify teaching excellence in the classroom.

Dr. Speicher will be honored, along with other regional recipients, at the ACBSP Virtual Conference 2020, June 22-24. He will receive a crystal medallion and a \$250 check.

Two International Teaching Excellence Award recipients will be announced at the virtual conference, one from a baccalaureate/graduate degree-granting institution and one from an associate degree-granting institution. As a regional recipient, Dr. Speicher is now a candidate for the international award.



Christopher Speicher

Arthur Comstock, Ph.D., executive director and chairman of the School of Business & Global Innovation at Marywood University, said, "I have witnessed a faculty member who is totally devoted to positively effecting the outcomes of student trajectories, either

through proactive experiential classroom outcomes or just a freshman who is homesick. His engagement with students in starting, volunteering, and helping to operate start-up entities is unparalleled by any faculty anywhere. His commitment to continuous learning and fostering global entrepreneurship is awe-inspiring."

The ACBSP Associate Degree Commission established the International Teaching Excellence Award in 1995 to recognize outstanding classroom teachers. In 2002, the Baccalaureate Degree

Commission created a similar award to recognize excellence in teaching at the baccalaureate/graduate degree level. ACBSP is the only specialized body for business schools that presents an award recognizing excellence in teaching, open to application by the entire membership.

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For information about Marywood's School of Business and Global Innovation, visit marywood.edu/business/.

Dunmorean of the Month

(Continued from Page 1)

previously an abandoned building. Jerry is the developer there.

"We are blessed to have residents who want to bring lucrative businesses to Dunmore and beautify the community.

"As a member of the local business community, it is refreshing to have a business leader like Jerry who gives back double what he receives."

After graduating from Villanova, Ferrario came back home and joined Ferrario Insurance and Real Estate which his late grandfather, Angelo, started and ran until his dad took over. He and his brother Joe operated the business after his late dad Jerry, Sr.

But real estate development and improving the Dunmore community was in his veins.

He developed 10 townhouses on Sherwood Avenue in 2008-2009. Currently nine are occupied and one is available. There is approval to build another six, he said.

The Monroe Plaza is 44,000 square feet, of which 32,000 square feet are occupied, he said.

"There is 12,000 square feet vacant, but we have some interested tenants," Ferrario said.

The current tenants of Monroe Plaza include Traditional Home Health Care, Great Wall Chinese Restaurant, Saint Joseph's Day Care Center, Podiatrist Elmo Baldassari, Brian Clark Architecture, a mortgage company and the Haggerty, Hinton and Cosgrove Law Firm.

"My goal is always to help make Dunmore a better community," Ferrario said.

"I take a lot of pride in living in this community. We have really good people here. My brother is an equal partner. And Michael Marion is a big help as a minority partner. We are always looking to improve the Dunmore community."

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Doin' Dunmore

With Steve Svetovich



The reality is still setting in for Dunmore graduating senior Bell Pendon.

Daughter of Janet and Reynold Pendon, Dunmore, Bell said she feels "humbled" after learning late last month she is the Dunmore High School valedictorian.

"At first when I was told," she said, "it didn't feel like it was real. It took me a while to take it all in. Now I am getting used to it."

"I feel very humbled and grateful."

Bell, 18, will be attending Bucknell University next year on a Dean's Scholarship. She will study psychology.

Bell, who has an infectious giggle, said she wants to become a psychiatrist eventually. She will combine the sciences with psychology. The Dunmore scholar said her best subject is English, but she likes science the best.

"I am going to study psychology," she said, "because I always wanted to help people. I have seen first hand how mental health issues affect people's lives and I want to be in a profession to help."

Bell loves to be active and play a big part in school activities which is evident by her membership in numerous clubs. She is a member of the Student Council, Yearbook staff, Drama Club, Newspaper Club, Earth Club and is a football cheerleader.

Bell enjoys acting and was in various plays at Dunmore High School. "That was a lot of fun," she said. "It is nice to be involved in a lot of clubs at school. I thought drama was great."

She talked about her experience at Dunmore. "It was such a welcoming experience. The teachers and my fellow students supported me so much. They made me who I am today. I am very grateful."

Bell said she enjoys baking and her favorite musical artist is Taylor Swift.

She has two sisters, Cessna, 21, and Marchete, 19, both Dunmore graduates. Cessna attends the University of Pittsburgh and Marchete goes to the University of Chicago. Higher learning obviously runs in the family. Her sisters have been very positive influences on Bell.

Born in the Phillipines, Bell came to Dunmore with her family when she was in the fourth grade. She talked about the differences in two countries. "Well, it is warmer in the Phillipines," she said, "but here there are many more opportunities. There were certainly a lot of clubs to join in at school. I made many friends."

Humble in nature, Bell said she learned "perseverance and kindness" from her parents. She said her Dunmore teachers always taught her "to be curious."

Bell said she spent the past several months studying at home, spend-

Bell Pendon named 2020 valedictorian at Dunmore High



ing a lot of time with her family and practicing "social distancing" during the on going COVID-19 pandemic.

Bell said she is excited about attending college at Bucknell. "I am very excited about meeting new

people and taking on higher education learning. It will be a different kind of learning with college professors. My experience at Dunmore will help me.

"My goal is simply to lead a happy life."

Lackawanna announces President's, Dean's Lists

Lackawanna College has recognized more than 300 students named to its President's List for academic excellence during the Spring 2019-20 semester. A student qualifies for the President's List if they achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum of 24 credit hours, including 12 credits during the most recent semester.

Students from Dunmore named to the President's List are: Shayna Bradley, Nicole Gillette, Devin M. Lyke, Isabella Mandarano, and Jessica Murphy.

Nearly 380 Lackawanna College students were named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2020 semester. A student qualifies for the Dean's List if they achieve a grade point average of 3.2 with a minimum of nine credit hours to qualify.

Students from Dunmore named to the Dean's List were: Adrianna M. Acker, Noah Barton, Ethan W. Bobb, Derek Bogdan, Sara A. Grande, Abdul James, James J. Malone, Mitchell Russavage and Samantha Wesley.

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Keystone Chapter UNICO National has rescheduled its annual Pig Roast Fundraiser until Sunday, Sept. 27, at Fiorelli's. "Clothesline for Men" is this year's major beneficiary and "Black & White 1940's Big Band Era" is the theme. Entertainment will be provided by E.J. the D.J. from 5 to 9 p.m. The evening will include a professional 5x7 photo taken by Rich Banick. There will be a two-hour open bar with hors d'oeuvres during the first hour and an Italian buffet dinner during the second hour, along with a basket raffle, Wilbur the Money Pig, and the Italian Money Umbrella. The Grand Door Prize is "Dinner at Angelo's" in Dunmore. Tickets are \$55 per persons. Call Michele at 570-343-7009. Committee members are, seated from left: Board chairman Nanine Gramigna; Pig Roast cochairman Sylvia Tagert; Bonnie Haluska, Volunteer Program Manager, ClothesLine For Men, and Keystone President Frank Coviello. Standing: Mark McDade, Lenore Latarewicz, Ann Summa, Mary Ann Coviello, Michele McDade, Marilyn Vitali, Tom Carlucci, Nancy Malone, cochair Bob Tagert, Toni DiVizio, Ed Latarewicz, Mary Lou Karliak,



Landmark Community Bank recently presented the Greater Scranton YMCA with a \$1,000 contribution through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program. Participants included, from left: Trip Crowley, Branch Manager, Landmark Community Bank; Trish Fisher, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA, and David Wintermute, Commercial Relationship Manager, Landmark Community Bank.

Masses resume on June 8

In a video message to parishioners, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera announced details regarding the gradual reopening of additional parishes in the Diocese of Scranton.

On Monday, June 8, parishes in Lackawanna County will be able to resume in-person Masses. The exact timetable for an individual parish to reopen will be the decision of its pastor with regard to preparedness, especially in regards to maintaining proper social distancing and sanitization.

Mass attendance at all parishes will be limited to no more than 25-percent of a church's seating capacity. Parishioners will be required to wear face masks and remain a proper social distance of at least six feet away from other individuals/families.

"For the last 10 weeks, I know many of our faithful parishioners have been longing to return to church, participate in Mass and receive the Holy Eucharist," Bishop Bambera said. "The Diocese has been working hard to resume in-person worship in a safe, comfortable and reverent manner."

Additional guidance for all parishes includes:

- Those who feel vulnerable because of their age or underlying medical conditions will be encouraged to stay home.
- People who are feeling ill will be directed not to attend public Masses.

- The Sunday Mass obligation remains suspended at this time.

- Parishes are encouraged to continue livestreaming Masses and a daily Mass will continue to be broadcast on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton.

- Pews will be marked off or designated in order to maintain proper social distancing guidelines.

- Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass. Parishioners are strongly advised to receive the Body of Christ in the hand. Distribution of the Precious Blood remains suspended at this time.

"As the doors of our parishes reopen, everyone has an important role to play. The safety of our faithful people, our clergy and our community is the most important factor guiding any decisions that are made," Bishop Bambera added.



The Intraborough Boys Basketball Championship Game between Dunmore and Holy Cross High Schools was recently held at Holy Cross High School. This year the Holy Cross Boys defeated the Dunmore Boys by a score 69-46 and ended the regular season with a 20-2 record. The Holy Cross boys' team is the top rated basketball club by the Scranton Times Sport Writers. Holy Cross team members include, kneeling from left: Coach Mike Zayac, David Romanski, Hayden Hosie, Caleb Callejas, Head Coach Al Callejas, and Lion President Jim Aita, standing with trophy; Leahy O'Connor, Doug Walsh, and John Hartridge. Standing, same order: Lions Angelo Martarano and Leo Wentline Jr.; Tyler Mendicino, Kyler Kovalski, David Mariotti, Jalik Nicholls, Kieran Burrier, Angelo Norella, Coach Corey Joyce, Patrick Bennie, Joe Osborne, Coach Rob Heyen, T.J. Liuzzo, Will Kitrell, Jack Allardyce, JuJuan Nicholls, James Calciano, Sean Kennedy, Adam Mariotti, Coach Al Callejas, Lion Rich Green, Coach Tim Callejas, Lion Jim Colangelo, Logan Aldridge, and Coach Rich LaRussa.

Dunmore Scholars of the Month. . .



Spencer Asman

Spencer Asman is a graduating senior at Dunmore High School where he has been involved in the Marching, Concert and Jazz Bands, Boys Varsity Tennis Team, French and Spanish Clubs, and SADD Club. He has been a part of the Crimson Company for four years, starting as an Assistant Stage Manager in his freshman year for The Crucible and Annie before becoming the Stage Left Stage Manager throughout his Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Years, working on Peter and the Starcatcher, The Little Mermaid, As You Like It, Beehive, and The Great Cellphone Catastrophe and You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. He also holds a part-time position at Tom Hesser Nissan. Spencer plans to attend Temple University in the fall to major in Accounting and hopefully minor in Legal Studies in Business.

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Caroline Nolen, a senior at Dunmore High School, has served as captain of the Girls' Varsity Soccer Team, drum major of the Marching Band, Music Guild president, chorus member, sports editor of the Crimson Courier, and a varsity basketball cheerleader. As a five-year member of the Crimson Company, she held positions of sophomore and junior representative, and served as a runner in the eighth grade for Seussical: The Musical and has worked as a spotlight operator for Annie, Peter and the Starcatcher, The Little Mermaid, and Beehive, as well as being a part of the stage crew for



Caroline Nolen

The Crucible and The Great Cellphone Catastrophe and working in the house for As You Like It. She also has a

part-time job. Caroline plans on attending Wilkes University and pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

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Holy Cross valedictorian Tori Kovalchick off to Penn State

By Steve Svetovich

Tori Kovalchick learned a lot time ago that hard work pays off.

The Holy Cross graduating senior is her school's valedictorian as she sets her sights on attending Penn State University in the fall.

Graduating with a 4.27 grade point average, Tori will attend the Schreyer Honors College while studying chemical engineering at Penn State's main campus in State College.

Daughter of Fred and Greta Kovalchick, the well-spoken and articulate senior said she learned the value of hard work from her parents.

"My parents always taught me about the value of hard work," she said. "If you put your best effort forward, you will get great results."

Tori said her best and favorite subject is science. She was the

recipient of the Bausch Lamb Honorary Science Award from the University of Rochester.

Tori received medals for the past three years for the National Latin exam.

Polite and intellectual, Tori is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, the Pro Life Club and is class secretary.

She talked about her decision to study chemical engineering. "Well, I wanted to combine math and science while working in a profession to help serve others.

"I hope to perform research for a pharmaceutical engineering firm to help improve modern medicine."

Tori said she has been keeping busy with school work and family during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I have been very busy doing my school work and applying for college scholarships. I have also been enjoying time with my fam-

ily before I go off to college. I am spending as much time as I can with them. I am also taking time to enjoy the outdoors."

A National Merit Commended Scholar, Tori said she has many hobbies, including playing piano and saxophone, cooking and baking, and watching musical theatre.

She is very much looking forward to the college experience at Penn State.

"I am very excited to be able to experience Penn State," she said.

"There is a lot of school spirit there and they take pride in their school. And with my studies there, I get to explore what I am most passionate about."

Tori said she enjoys music and would like to see Elton John in concert.

She has thoroughly enjoyed her experience at Holy Cross.

"It has been the best experience," she said.

"I transferred there as a freshman. I was very much supported by the teachers, administrators and students. It was very easy to make friends. Everyone was so kind, welcoming and supportive."



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June Artist of the Month: Maria Ragnacci

Maria Ragnacci has certainly progressed from her first attempt at painting: "My very first experience with painting was a "paint by numbers" kit, a gift from my mother when I was 18." I was hooked! I loved working with paint and canvas, but I decided that I didn't want to "stay in line." I live the freedom to do my own thing and paint what I see.

Most of my paintings are from pictures in magazines, photos that I've taken, and my own originals. I recently completed portraits of my five grandchildren. "Turquoise and Velvet" pictured here fascinated me by its use of color and light. "The Red Fence" is a painting of my back yard.

With help and guidance from our teacher, Jill Swersie, I feel that I have greatly improved and accomplished more than I could ever have imagined. The class at the hub is more than just a place a place to pain; the encouragement, comradery and friendship of fellow painters makes us "family".

There are many other programs and activities for people to take advantage of that are equally enriching. The Dunmore Activity Hub, under the direction of Allison Boga, is truly one of Dunmore's "Gems"!



Maria Ragnacci, the May Artist of the Month at Dunmore Activity Hub is shown with two of her paintings, "Turquoise and Velvet," a fascinating use of color and light, and "The Red Fence," a painting of her back yard.



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The Keystone Chapter UNICO made a \$250 donation to the NEPA Youth Shelter at a recent Board Meeting. Maureen Maher-Gray, executive director, gave a presentation on the goals of the Youth Shelter and what is needed to keep it running on a daily basis. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the NEPA Youth Shelter is encouraged to contact Maureen at: nepayouthshelter@gmail.com. Pictured at the check presentation, seated from left: Marilyn Vitali, Keystone UNICO Director; Maureen Maher Gray, NEPA Youth Shelter Executive Director; and Nanine Gramigna, Keystone UNICO Board Chairman. Standing from left are Frank Muto, Keystone UNICO Director; and Frank Coviello, Keystone UNICO President.

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Watermelon is an answer to her prayer

We are keeping our fingers crossed that this first week of June will bring us out of the Red into the Yellow of the Covid pandemic.

There aren't that many differences as far as eating out until we enter the "Green" phase, which can't come fast enough for many of us--however, it's a step in the right direction.

When our quarantine first started in March, the weather was cold. Just a hop, skip and jump later we're in the 80's and 90's. Now it's time to look forward to summer and eating cool. The answer to my prayer this week has been watermelon.

The fruit, so sweet, cold, and juicy, has been a welcome delight in our home. Immediately after returning home from my weekly

shopping trip, I place it in our refrigerator. In a day or two, it's time to cut it out of its rind into chunks....sweet, juicy chunks.

Watermelon isn't as versatile as other summer melons as it is nearly all water. However, the advantage of this is that it's wonderful just plain...doesn't need any seasoning...and no, I don't like salt on it...I savor the sweetness.

It is the kind of fruit you can't get enough of during its prime season, which is May through September. So here are some drink and salad recipes highlighting this luscious summer fruit.

FROZEN WATERMELON DAIQUIRI

1/2 seedless watermelon, cut

into 1" cubes then freeze in a freezer bag

1/2-1 cup rum (not spiced)

1 Tbsp. confectioners' sugar

Handful of mint leaves, chopped

Put frozen watermelon cubes in blender. Add rum, confectioners' sugar and mint leaves. Blend. Note: you may have to push watermelon down several times until smooth. Pour into glass. Makes 4-6 drinks.

CARIBBEAN COOLER

3 cups chopped, seeded watermelon, rind removed

2-4 Tbsp. fresh lime juice

2 Tbsp. granulated sugar, plus more, to taste

1/2 cup ginger ale

Cheryl's Cuisine



By Cheryl Radkiewicz

WATERMELON FIZZ

2 cups seedless watermelon chunks

6 oz. club soda

2 Tbsp. frozen limeade concentrate

10 ice cubes

3 oz. watermelon-flavored vodka, Smirnoff

1 Tbsp. sugar

Whole strawberries

In blender container, combine watermelon, club soda, limeade concentrate, ice, vodka and sugar. Cover and blend until smooth. Pour into chilled glasses. Garnish with strawberries. Serves 2.

WATERMELON SPRITZER

4 cups watermelon, cut in chunks, seeds removed

2 Tbsp. sugar

2 Tbsp. lime juice

2 cups sparkling water, chilled

In blender, combine watermelon, sugar and lime juice. Cover and process until smooth. Strain into pitcher. Top with sparkling water. Pour into glasses and serve. Serves 4.

WATERMELON SALSA

4 cups seeded, chopped watermelon

2 Tbsp. lime juice

1 Tbsp. finely chopped red onion

(Please turn to Page 11)



Ragnacci's

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Cheryl's Cuisine

(Continued from Page 10)

2 tsp. finely chopped jalapeno pepper
1 Tbsp. minced fresh cilantro or parsley
1/8 tsp. salt

In large bowl combine all ingredients. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving. Serve with slotted spoon. Makes 4 cups salsa.

WATERMELON TOMATO SALAD

10 cups cubed seedless watermelon
2 pints grape or pear-shaped tomatoes
1 medium red onion, chopped
1/2 cup minced fresh parsley
1/2 cup minced fresh basil
1/4 cup lime juice

In large bowl, combine watermelon, tomatoes and onion. In small bowl, combine parsley, basil and lime juice. Pour over watermelon mixture and toss to coat. Refrigerate until serving. Yield: 16 servings.

WATERMELON CUCUMBER MEDLEY

1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/4 cup lemon juice (or lime juice)
1 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
Dash pepper
6 cups watermelon, cubed
3 medium cucumbers, thinly sliced

In a jar with tight-fitting lid, combine oil, lemon or lime juice, sugar, salt and pepper; shake until

sugar is dissolved. In a bowl, combine watermelon and cucumbers; drizzle with dressing. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving. Serves 10.

WATERMELON SHERBET

8 cups seeded chopped watermelon
1 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 cup lemon juice
2 envelopes unflavored gelatin
1/2 cup cold water
2 cups milk

In a large bowl, combine watermelon, sugar and lemon juice. Chill for 30 minutes; place half in blender. Blend until smooth; pour into large bowl. Repeat with other half and set aside. In saucepan, cook and stir gelatin and water over low heat until gelatin dissolves. Add to watermelon mixture; mix well. Stir in milk and mix until well blended. Freeze in an ice cream freezer according to manufacturer's directions. Serve immediately or freeze and allow to thaw about 20 minutes before serving. Makes 1/2 gallon.

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Stay safe & healthy

Dunmore natives try to arrange boxing matches from Cuba

Dunmore natives, Brian McAndrew and Bill Ciccotti were quarantined recently on a cruise ship near Miami, Florida.

Both men are fine and very healthy. But the ship was de-

tained temporarily as a precaution against the Covid 19 virus.

Brian and Bill were in Cuba to observe local boxing matches and do a bit of groundwork in an attempt to bring several young

Cuban boxers to the States, hopefully for a few Philadelphia and New York bouts.

Bill told us, "It's a ton of red tape and now the health issues are causing havoc."

Brian added, "It's a long shot, but hopefully things will work out successfully."

Leo Chavez, a boxing promoter and their Cuban connection, was very instrumental in orchestrating the Cuban side of this operatic operation. Leo proudly said, "Cuba is a land of magnificent architecture and passionate, enthusiastic people."

Tropical fisticuffs, old cars, rum bars, and Spanish guitars were calling the Dunmoreans deeply into a sweet Latin embrace. And yes, they hit all the great night spots.

Brian smiles, "Sloppy Joe's, La Floridita, El Dandy's, The Coco Cabana, to name just a few." But it wasn't all fun and games.

Bill replied, "Okay, Brian enjoyed talking with several girl boxers while I sparred with Coco Crispy at El Dandy's Bar in Havana. Nobody got hurt. Coco pulled his punches, thank God."

The next day, Cuban boxing promoter and Hemingway look-alike Pablo Hernández with his

middle weight champion Kid Castro, showed up. Bill Ciccotti and Brian McAndrew intensely tried to organize a possible stateside match for Castro.

Bill shared Cohiba cigars with Kid Castro while Brian McAndrew spent some time driving a classic 1950s green convertible with two female boxers, Angelina Gomez-Rodriguez and Sophia Ortega.

Bill laughed, "It's not the first time Brian ditched me in Cuba. But he always returns, eventually."

At the Rafael Trejo Gym in the outskirts of Old Havana, Bill Ciccotti continued negotiating stateside boxing possibilities and hopeful match cards.

Bill lamented, "Too soon it was time to leave the land of sweet sugar cane."

Brian shook his head, "And it all went downhill from there." Several days of aimless floating at sea, and finally the boys were released. Everything tested out fine and they were given full medical discharges.

"Captain Von Helbing met with us," Bill says.

Brian laughed, "We were offered free cruises in the future. I'd need to think about that before I agreed."

He quickly added, "But Cuba, well, now that's a no brainer. Tropical sun bakes you lovingly and sea breezes caress you passionately. Laughter and fine memories surround you., Cuba is a trip back to the 1950s in all its magnificent glory. Detroit chariots of the Gods and the finest cigars around are there for the tasting."

Bill nodded knowingly and encourages others to make the visit, "What are you waiting for? Get yourself over there before it all changes. Cuba won't remain lovingly trapped in the fabulous 50s forever."



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Cuban boxing promoter Leo Chavez, center, is shown with Dunmore natives Brian McAndrew and Bill Ciccotti during a recent visit on the island.



Bill Ciccotti is shown sparring with Cuban boxer at "El Dandy's" bar in Havana.

Scrapbook from Cuba



Cuban boxing promoter and Hemingway lookalike Pablo Hernández is shown with his middleweight Kid Castro. Bill Ciccotti and Brian McAndrew are on hand, trying to arrange a possible stateside match.--See related photos on Pages 14 and 15.

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Dunmore's Keystone UNICO awarded its 2020 scholarships this May. The scholarships are based on the student's GPA, hours of community service, having been accepted to a school of higher education and their school's recommendation. Dunmore High School and Holy Cross High School are allocated one scholarship each. Gabriella Parise, daughter of Thomas and Melissa Parise, received the Holy Cross High School scholarship. Gabriella will attend Wilkes University majoring in nursing. Pictured from left are Sandy Collins, Keystone UNICO Scholarship Director; Gabriella Parise, scholarship recipient; Frank Coviello, Keystone UNICO President; and Mary Ann Coviello, Keystone UNICO President Elect.

Dunmore students set to graduate from Lackawanna College

Lackawanna College has awarded more than 430 bachelor's degrees, associate degrees and certificates to the class of 2020, which includes students from 15 states and countries including France, Dominica and Saint Lucia. The College's 126th commencement is currently scheduled for Friday, Oct. 2, 2020, after its traditional May ceremony was postponed due to the global coronavirus pandemic.

Students in the class of 2020 were among the first to receive the College's associate degrees in Baking & Pastry and Occupational Therapy Assistant as well as bachelor's degrees in Accounting, Restaurant & Foodservice Management and RN-to-BSN.

Graduates also included seven regional high school students who completed their associate degrees while still enrolled in high school through the College's Level Up program.

Dunmore graduates included: **Pauline Ann Macarski**, cum laude, and **Elisabeth Jamison Padula**, bachelor of science, human services; **Gloria Marie Stryweski**, cum laude, associate in science, baking & pastry; **Seamus Michael Gerrity**, associate of science, business studies; **Alyssa Marie Fazio**, associate of science, early childhood education; **Kylia Denice Conaway**, associate of science, human services; **Jennifer Alexandra Gerrity**, magna cum laude, associate of science, occupational therapy assistant; **Corbin James Smith**, associate of science, sports management, and **Amanda Nowakowski**, certificate program, conservation & natural resource;

Two guys from Dunmore channel Hemingway



Brian McAndrew, Leo Chavez and Bill Ciccotti make a stop at Ernest Hemingway's favorite bar in Old Havana.---See story on Page 12 and related photos on Pages 12, 13 and 15.

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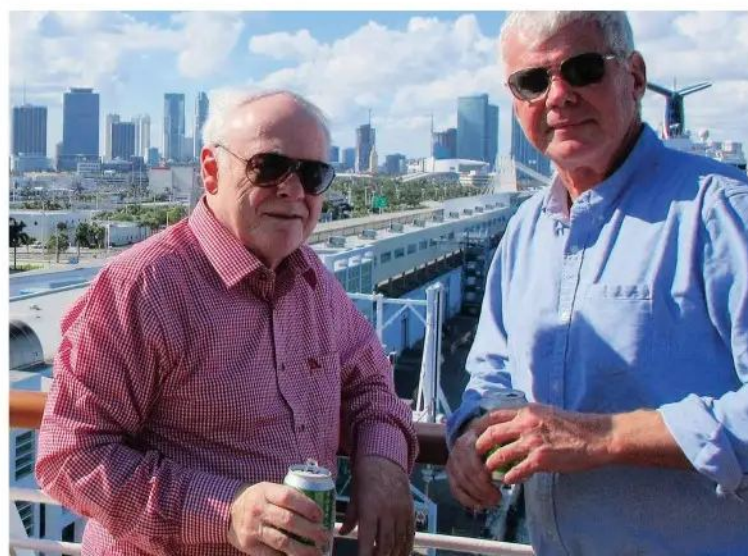
Memories of Cuba...



Bill Ciccotti chats with two women outside a Cuban gym.



Brian McAndrew enjoys a classic 50s green convertible car in Cuba with two female boxers, Angelina Gomez-Rodriguez and Sophia Ortega.







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THE DUNMOREAN'S ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Leahy O'Connor heads to Pitt



Holy Cross Crusader Leahy O'Connor excelled in basketball where he was named honorable mention as a junior and selected for first-team all-league as a senior.

By Steve Svetovich

Leahy O'Connor knows how to seize an opportunity.

Take his experience at Holy Cross High School, for instance. Leahy enjoyed Holy Cross to the fullest.

Son of James and April O'Connor, Leahy, 18, was a four-year member of both the baseball and basketball teams at Holy Cross.

When he wasn't practicing or playing a game, Leahy concentrated on academics and will graduate with a highly impressive 3.9 grade point average.

Leahy will attend college at the

University of Pittsburgh where he will study pre law in the fall.

"I have been looking at the University of Pittsburgh for a long time," he said. "My dad and my aunt both went to colleges in Pittsburgh. I have been to Pittsburgh a lot and love the city. I am really looking forward to it."

The scholar-athlete learned his work ethic from his parents. "My parents taught me the value of hard work and about how to overcome failure in order to succeed," Leahy said.

Leahy was named honorable mention as a junior and was selected first-team all-league as a

senior for basketball. He averaged 12.5 points per game as a small forward this past year for the Crusaders under veteran basketball coach Al Callejas. He scored 650 career points at Holy Cross.

A superb center fielder on the baseball team, he batted .273 as a junior.

He was disappointed over the cancellation of his senior baseball season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "It was devastating not to play baseball," he said. "We thought our team would strongly compete for the league and district title and even go further. It was

(Please turn to Page 17

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Sports

O'Connor excelled in basketball, baseball

(Continued from Page 16)

tough not to be able to play as a senior."

The hard working senior said he learned a lot from Holy Cross basketball coach Al Callejas. "He teaches you how to overcome difficulty. And that is how you become a success."

Leahy also enjoyed playing for Holy Cross veteran baseball coach Sandy Menichetti.

"He is a lot of fun to play for. He teaches us how to enjoy what we are doing while still working hard. He wants us to have fun, but still give our best effort."

Leahy said his best academic subject is English. He is a member of Student Council, the National Honor Society and the History Club at Holy Cross.

He is very proud of the Holy Cross basketball team's achievements this past year in winning the league and district titles and advancing to the second round in the state playoffs.

"Our hard work really paid off," he said. "We worked hard the entire summer to get ready for the season. We were in the gym 10 months of the year working extremely hard. Our team success is really special because we put in the effort and it paid off."

Leahy, who is a huge fan of the late Tom Petty, said he loved his four years at Holy Cross.

"It was just a great experience," he said. "The atmosphere is the best. Everybody accepted me there. Seniors became friends with me when I was a freshman there. Likewise, I made sure to make friends with the freshmen when I was a senior. "That is the kind of school it is. It is close knit."

And Leahy is not the kind of a young man who sits still. He is keeping busy during the COVID-19 pandemic studying and working. He works at a gas station in Archbald and does some landscaping work at Marywood University.

"I'm trying to save some money for college," he said. "I'm looking forward to Pittsburgh."



Holy Cross athlete Leahy O'Connor also excelled on the baseball field as a center fielder.

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Sports

Dishin' the Dirt

With Steve Svetovich



Huge congratulations to former Dunmore Lady Bucks standout **Kaleigh Semion** selected for Big Ten Sportsmanship Award as member of Penn State basketball team...Kaleigh played three years of basketball at Penn State after trying out as walk on and is scheduled to receive her master's degree this August...Dunmore Crime Watch head **Gary Duncan** had pleasure of once meeting **Mary Pratt**, Rockford Peaches pitcher of "A League of Their Own" fame, who died last month at 101...Congratulations to Dunmore's **Annie Duncan** who is scheduled to receive M.B.A. from Marywood University this August...Congratulations to Dunmore's **Claire Duncan** who received B.S. degrees in English and Communications with a 3.8 grade point average from Immaculata University...Claire was a cheerleader, editor of school newspaper and tutor in writing center at Immaculata...She was accepted at West Chester University where she will serve as teaching assistant...Remember former Cleveland Indians No. 1 draft

pick **Steve Dunning** hitting grand slam off Oakland A's hurler **Diego Segui** May 11, 1971?...Dunning was last American League pitcher to hit grand slam before introduction of designated hitter (DH) in 1973...Dunning, 23-41 with 4.56 ERA as pitcher from 1970 through 1977, hit .273 with three homers in 1972...Do you remember **Swish McKinney**?...Holy Cross graduating senior **Leahy O'Connor**, four-year letterman in baseball and basketball and with 3.9 grade point average, is huge fan of late Tom Petty...Leahy praised Holy Cross veteran basketball coach **Al Callegas** for teaching him "how to achieve success when nothing is given to you"...Leahy said Holy Cross players "work hard while having fun" under veteran baseball coach **Sandy Menichetti**...Local football world mourning passing of **John "Jack" Rogan**, former co-owner and quarterback of Lackawanna County/Scranton Eagles, who died last month due to COVID-19...Rogan was minor league football legend who played into his early 40's...Congratulations to former Marywood University baseball player and West Scranton

basketball player **Dylan Svetovich**, Dunmore, scheduled to receive M.S. in health care administration from Marywood University during ceremonies this August...Dunmore's **Tony Cantafio** participated in 1965 Dream Game following in footsteps of his dad, **James Gatto**, who played in the classic in 1938...Cantafio's younger brother **Jim Gatto, Jr.** played in 1971 Dream Game...Do you remember former Dunmore all-state lineman **Derek Forgione** who had five tackles, including two sacks, in City's 28-0 win over County in 60th annual Dream Game in 1994?...Dunmore's **Grey Simpson** had interception in 1994 Dream Game...Former Dunmore quarterback **Jack Dempsey** and kicker **Pat Coar** played in 60th annual Dream Game...Get well wishes to Peckville's **Dick Tracewski**, 85, four-time World Series champion, recuperating at home following open heart surgery in Virginia...Tracewski spent 28 years, four as player and 24 as coach, in Detroit Tigers organization which is record for franchise...Tracewski is former LA Dodgers roommate of legendary Hall of Fame pitcher **Sandy Koufax** who is still his golfing buddy...Former Atlanta Braves catcher **Biff Po-**

coroba died last month at 66 and is ninth member of team's 1982 NL West title team to pass away...West Scranton graduating senior **Paola Torres Reyes**, captain of soccer team and two-time Lackawanna League all-star and member of National Honor Society, will attend Marywood University and major in respiratory therapy in fall...Condolences to family of beloved East Mountain resident **Shirley Garvey**, former Mercy Hospital employee, who died last month at 84...**Alison Prushinski**, Scranton Prep four-year All-Region in swimming and member of National Honor Society, will attend Loyola University at Maryland where she will study biology and psychology on pre-med track and participate on women's swimming team...Scranton Prep senior football captain and member of National Honor Society **Brendan Colleran** will attend Penn State and study pre-med in fall...Holy Cross graduating senior hurdler **Kate Rogers** will take her track and field skills to Indiana University of Pennsylvania in fall...Late **Ed Gregorowicz**, Dickson City, was manager of 1973 Tasty Freeze team who won Dickson City Midget Baseball League title...His son **Jim Gregorowicz**, now a

Scranton attorney, was shortstop... Another son **Andy Gregorowicz**, now an accounting professor at University of Scranton, was assistant coach...Remember Bishop O'Hara's **Kim Miller** throwing one-hitter and striking out 10 in 7-1 win over Old Forge 30 years ago?...Condolences to family of Dunmore's **Mary Beth Carra** who died last month after three-year battle with cancer...Her daughter **Lauren Carra**, former first-team all-state member of Dunmore Lady Bucks, is girls junior varsity basketball coach at North Pocono...Congratulations to Dunmore High School Valedictorian **Bell Pendon** who will attend Bucknell University and study psychology on scholarship in fall...Condolences to family of retired Scranton Fire Department lieutenant **Jim "Tugger" Togher**, Scranton Prep graduate and former Mercy Hospital employee, who died last month at 58...Togher spent 29 years as Scranton firefighter...Former Holy Cross basketball standout **Abby Anderson** received Coaches Award at Saint Francis College of New York where she is women's basketball junior...West Scranton senior outfielder **Garrett Walsh** received Ed Brudnicki (Please Turn to Page 20)

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Dishin' the Dirt...

(Continued from Page 18)

Memorial Award while senior teammate pitcher **Jared Morris** earned Dennis Petillo Memorial Award...Congratulations to Holy Cross Valedictorian **Tori Kovalchick** who received scholarship to study chemical engineering at Penn State University Schreyer Honor's College in fall...Do you remember Scranton Prep defensive back **Dave Scoblick**?...Time for this country to unite as one following horrific death of **George Floyd** at hands of Minneapolis police officer who pressed his knee on victim's neck for close to nine minutes while in police custody...Heart felt condolences to family of George Floyd...Do you remember **Johnny Thomas**?...Whatever became of **Stan Pawlack**?...Congratulations to the Dunmore, Holy Cross, Scranton Prep, Scranton and all other senior high school students graduating in 2020...Despite COVID-19 pandemic, job extremely well done, seniors...

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Happenings



Saint Joseph's Center Employee of the Month.

Kay Dodgson, RN, Director of Quality and Incident Management is the Employee of the Month for May 2020. She has worked for Saint Joseph's Center for 40 years and has diverse responsibilities which include Chairing the Infection Control Committee along with participating as a member of the Incident Review, Risk Management and Fire and Safety Committees. She also provide a variety of educational programs for the Direct Support Professionals and Nursing Staff at the Center.

Congratulations, Kay!



A Prayer for Strength

Dear God:

Please give me the strength to endure this situation during these difficult days, and to find the blessings and lessons that it contains while I work with the residents and clients at Saint Joseph's Center. Please give me the care, concern, compassion

and commitment needed to continue ahead with the staff and those who need me. Please guide my thoughts, words and actions, so that I continue to walk your path of peace and love. Amen. **You are GREAT!**

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Direct Support Professionals of the Year COVID-19 Updates

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, dedicated staff are working to safeguard the health and well-being of the people we support in community-based and residential services. The residents who always teach us about trust and perseverance continue to live in a way where limits do not confine love. Since early March, a COVID-19 response plan has been implemented. Several services have been temporarily suspended while others continue with modifications to ensure necessary health and safety precautions. Residential programs are vital and provide a nurturing home for individuals with intellectual disabilities as well as transitional housing for pregnant or parenting women experiencing homelessness. In these settings, dedicated staff are monitoring closely each person's health.

During this challenging time, Jessica Benke has been doing her best to maintain established routines for the people she serves. "We try to make it feel like an ordinary day for the clients. Keeping a routine for the clients is extremely important, especially with meal times!" Some activities include making birthday t-shirts, doing sensory projects, dance parties, taking walks, and doing puzzles. One of the special crafting projects she worked on with clients is making bird houses for the arrival of new baby birds this spring.

Since Adult Day Services has been temporarily suspended due to COVID-19, Linda Edlunds has been finding new ways to help those she serves. With recent health issues, Linda has been working at home. She coordinates "Virtual Activities"; a daily email list of fun, interactive activities to keep staff and clients engaged. She finds things she knows the residents and clients would enjoy. She finds online puzzles, relaxing reading times in the evening, and memory match games. "YouTube" and virtual community interactions have become her "go to" for fun things to do.

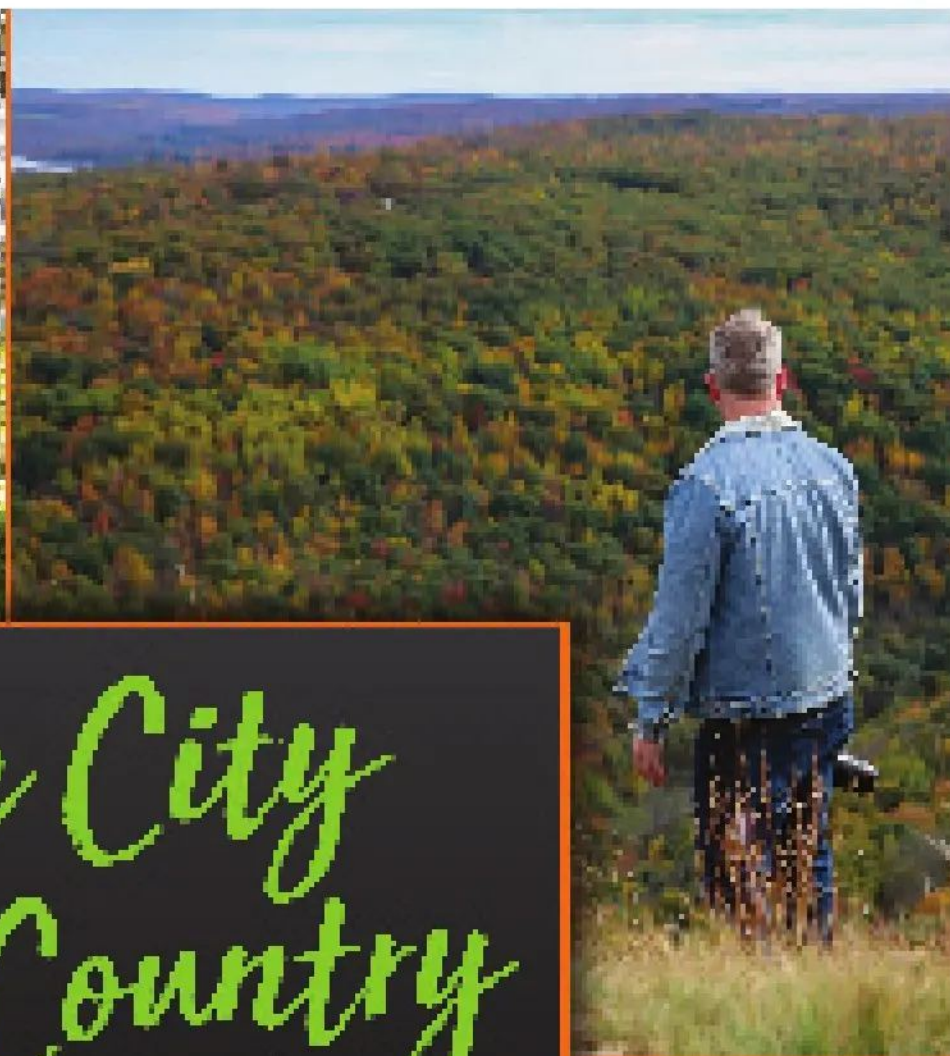
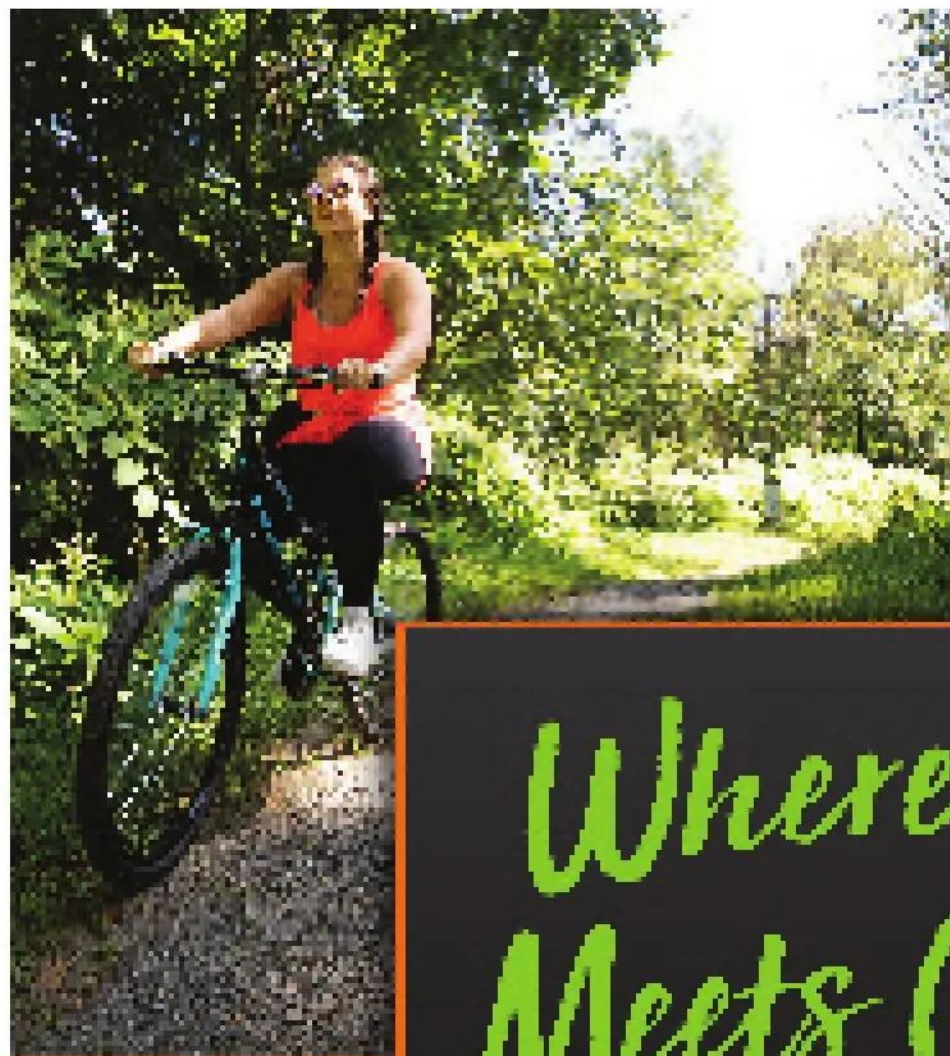
Michelle Miles keeps up with clients in the community by helping them with their new daily challenges during COVID. Many of the clients in Community Supports are accustomed to having lunches at restaurants and going to the store regularly. Since these activities are unavailable now, Michelle has been working with maintaining some old routines and adapting to others. They go shopping together, maintain self-care, and she help clients maintain their homes. One of the biggest challenges that she is facing is having clients refrain from touching their faces or masks in public. "Making sure they keep their mask on so they can remain safe is a key concern"(during outings).

Thank you to all Saint Joseph's Center staff for all you continue to do!

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